

Amendments to the Drawings:

Amended Figures 1, 2, 3 and 5 (sheets 1/37 to 3/37) are now enclosed marked "Replacement Sheets".

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the detailed Office Action dated June 9, 2006. In response to the issues raised, Applicant offers the following arguments and amendments. Also enclosed is a Terminal Disclaimer linking the term and ownership of the present application to that of co-pending USSN 10/183,182.

Amendments

The specification has been amended to include the details of the prior filed application from which the present application claims benefit under §119.

The specification has also been amended to correct the typographical errors identified by the Examiner.

Likewise the drawings have been amended to address the omissions and inconsistencies highlighted in the Examiner's Report.

Likewise, we submit that the amendments do not add any new matter.

Priority

The details of the prior filed application, from which the present application claims the benefit of an earlier filing date, have been incorporated in the page 1 of the specification by amendment. We trust that this satisfies 35 USC §119(e).

Drawings

Figures 1, 2, 3 and 5 have been amended to incorporate a reference numeral for the lip portion on the PTFE layer. We submit that the detailed description now aligns with the drawings.

Specification

Likewise, the detailed description has been amended to correct the errors in the reference characters and the figure numbers identified by the Examiner.

Non-Statutory Double Patenting

We submit that the enclosed Terminal Disclaimer to co-pending USSN 10/183,182 (now granted patent No. 6,682,174) prevent any unjustified extension of patent right or harassment from multiple assignees.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed and the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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